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their female slaves, or even their brothers and sisters, in the same line, than they would do to the disposal of a cow or a horse, or any other property of the brute creation. To so low a degree of degradation does the system of Negro slavery sink the white inhabitants, who are unhappily engaged in it."

There are likewise some observations on General Washington's having slaves, at the time that he said he was fighting for liberty. I wish I could see this book in your review.

G.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF RECOVERY AND FEVER HOSPITAL, IN CORK-STREET, DUBLIN, FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 4TH JANUARY, 1813.

THE Committee, in making their Annual Report, have to communicate to the subscribers, and the public, two serious and important facts, which have occurred within the past year.

The number of patients admitted have increased to the alarming number of 2273, (being 795 more than in the former year, and 1020 more than the average of the seven years preceding,) and the funds have failed in meeting this extraordinary pressure.

The Committee had, from the circumstance of an increase in the two former years, judged it necessary to make application for an additional Parliamentary grant of 1000, which they received: notwithstanding this, they found that their funds were, from the extensively increased demand for admission, likely to fall considerably short of the expenditure; they, therefore, on the 29th October last, addressed the public,

stating the facts, and calling for additional aid; and they are sorry to be obliged to say, that but a small sum has been put into their hands in consequence; this appeal after stating the great increase of admissions, proceeds as follows.

"The fact being incontrovertible, it may be asked, why it has been so? And whether the cause or causes producing said increase, have been temporary, or promise in a certain degree to be permanent? To throw light on a question which the Committee are anxious to place before the public in a clear point of view, it is to be remarked, that on the opening of the Hospital on the 14th of May, 1804, the district, from which persons afflicted with contagious fever were received, was confined to five parishes within the Liberty: on the 14th May, 1805, all the sick poor labouring under the above disease, residing on the South side of the river Liffey, and within the boundary of the Circular-road, were admitted: on the 1st of September, 1807, the benefits of the Charity were opened to female servants, of every description, labouring under contagious fever within the district, [heretofore excluded:] on the 1st of June, 1808, the same indulgence was extended, for the first time, to male servants of every description as above: and on the 5th of January, 1809, the district was finally enlarged, so as to comprehend the whole of the City of Dublin, within the Circular-road.

"In addition to these facts, the Committee are enabled to state, from an experience of several years past, that the following causes have likewise contributed to increase the pressure on this Hospital.

"1st. The benefits afforded to the sick poor, by the humanity and professional skill of the physicians, which have at all times been active-

ly and successfully exerted in their behalf, joined to the steady and strict enforcement of the Hospital regulations, which has secured proper attention to the sick, from the nurses and servants of the Institution, have had a happy effect on the minds of the inhabitants of Dublin at large, and have reconciled them to a mode of relief, against which very many of the lower orders have long entertained rooted prejudices, and this the Committee consider to be a matter of some consequence, as every effort which has a tendency to draw the different classes of society closer together in good will and affection, must be productive of beneficial national results.

“2d. The Committee know it to be a fact, that a number of poor persons living in the neighbourhood of Dublin, when seized with bad fever, are brought by their friends to a lodging within the Circular-road, and reported to the Hospital in conformity to the existing regulation, which report produces a speedy visit from the physician, and a ticket of admission from him, if the case be entitled to it.

“3d. In the whole of the present year, and for some time before, provisions of all kinds have been uncommonly high in every part of Ireland, but especially in the great cities; whilst, during a part of that time, whiskey was comparatively cheap. A great majority of the lower orders in Dublin have, on the above accounts, suffered great privations, and have been uncommonly sickly: to this must be added, the additional distress and disease entailed on this city, by the influx of poor persons into it, from all parts of Ireland; some of whom are the wives and children of soldiers and sailors, serving abroad, and when seized with fever, are quite destitute, and have the strongest claims to be received

into, and relieved in a public charity.

“After a careful consideration of the foregoing facts, the Committee think there is a probability that the admissions for the year to commence on the 5th of January next, will not fall greatly under the admissions of the present year, and that it will require the sum of £4,500 to defray the probable expense of said year.

“Various expedients may be resorted to, to meet this expense. After mature consideration, the Committee are disposed to adhere to, and to recommend the plan which formed the basis of their financial system, on the opening of the Hospital, namely, That it should be maintained, partly by Parliamentary grant, and partly by subscription from the inhabitants of Dublin, who are able and willing to give: the Committee gladly embrace this opportunity of stating, that in all their pecuniary exigencies, they have never applied to either without receiving extensive aid, as the bounty of government has uniformly gone hand in hand with the liberal contributions of humane and respectable individuals. the Committee have no hesitation in giving it as their decided opinion, that even if it could be accomplished, it would not be desirable, that this Institution should be left wholly dependent upon Parliamentary grants for support: the interest which most men take in the welfare of an institution which they contribute to maintain, has a strong tendency to keep alive good will, and to invigorate the spirit of active and upright controul and superintendence, on which the vitality and usefulness of all charities depend; and in addition to this, the Committee think that an establishment which promptly receives and relieves the servants of the upper and middle classes of Dublin, labouring under contagious fe-

ver, as well as the lower orders, and prevents the ravage of contagion from spreading throughout this populous city, as it too often has done heretofore, has a strong and equitable call for support, to a certain extent, from those persons to whose families and relatives such advantages and security have been brought home."

The Committee have now only to observe, that it will appear from the annexed account, that they are very considerably in debt to their Treasurers, and therefore they entreat that the foregoing statement may be

duly considered, and that all who are of ability to contribute even small sums, will send their donations to the Treasurers, or to any of the Committee whose names are annexed, and likewise that those who are already annual subscribers may be willing to give an increase to what they have hitherto paid. That an Institution which it is believed will be acknowledged to have been of extensive and essential usefulness, may not be under the necessity of curtailing its benefits.

Cork-street, 6th May, 1813.

PATIENTS ADMITTED

From 14th May, 1804, to 5th January, 1805,.....	423
— 5th January, 1805, to 5th January, 1806,.....	1028
— 5th January, 1806, to 5th January, 1807,.....	1272
— 5th January, 1807, to 5th January, 1808,.....	1093
— 5th January, 1808, to 5th January, 1809,.....	1072
— 5th January, 1809, to 5th January, 1810,.....	1056
— 5th January, 1810, to 5th January, 1811,.....	1774
— 5th January, 1811, to 5th January, 1812,.....	1478
— 5th January, 1812, to 5th January, 1813,.....	2275

Total admissions since the opening of the Hospital, 11468

Admitted from 14th May, 1804, to
4th January, 1813, inclusive,... 11468

Discharged cured,...	10437
Died,.....	908
Remain in Hospital, 5th Jan. 1813,.....	123
	11468

In the Hospital 5th January, 1812, 66
Admitted from 5th January, 1812,
to 4th Jan. 1813, inclusive,..... 2275

Discharged cured,...	2048
Died,.....	168
Remain in Hospital, 5th Jan. 1813,.....	123

2359

MEDICAL REPORT, BY ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS.

Being called on, according to the regulations of the Institution, to furnish a report for the year past, of occurrences as far as might regard the medical department, I beg leave to observe, that in consequence of the great press of business during that period, from the extraordinary

increase of applications for the sick, and also from the indisposition of some of the medical gentlemen in attendance, and likewise of the apothecary, it became impracticable to pay that attention to what occurred, which is always found necessary on such occasions. Though, as the establishment embraces only such as are found sick of contagious fever,

the report of one year must often refer to such occurrences as have already been adverted to in the preceding annual reports of the house. Rendered incapable, from the circumstances above stated, of giving a report in the usual manner, I shall take the liberty of offering a few observations respecting fever.

Typhus fever, during the last year, has been unusually prevalent, many families in the lower ranks of the community, have suffered severely by it; several individuals in the same families, and sometimes the entire of them, were visited by it in succession. Relapses also were uncommonly frequent; yet in other respects, the type of the fever was not more formidable than that of the epidemic of some other years. Whether this extraordinary power of establishing itself so widely, should be referred to any peculiar quality in itself, or rather to a certain state of body and mind in the lower ranks of society, predisposing them so as to be more susceptible of the influence of contagion than is commonly the case, I shall not take upon me to say.

That such predisposition, however, may take place, might be thought probable from the following circumstances, which prevailed during that time in an uncommon degree. These were poverty, want, anxiety, and distress of mind, with their unavoidable attendant, neglect of cleanliness. It might appear strange that fever could become so common, considering the great attention resorted to by the institution to preventive measures. Such means are attended to, and unquestionably with advantage, in retarding its progress, and circumscribing in a certain degree its sphere of action, as has been shown in former reports; yet the poverty of most of the families from which the sick are remov-

ed, operates powerfully against the means of prevention; as they, being so poor, have no change of clean bed clothes, and are therefore obliged to continue the use of the foul clothes, which remain a nursery for infection that often continues for a long time in the same apartments, appearing occasionally as the season or other circumstances may favour it. I would moreover observe, that we often meet with individuals sick of contagious fever, who have not, from any account possible to be obtained, been in any degree exposed to contagion, and that therefore we might reasonably presume that there may exist other causes exclusive of contagion, effective in producing such fever. Bile of an acrid, and in some degree, unnatural quality, might probably be a principal cause.

This, with due deference and respect to those more experienced and better qualified to judge, I would be disposed to admit, influenced so from the following consideration, viz: That there may occasionally obtain a certain concurrence of circumstances, such as, state of atmosphere, degree of exercise, state of mind, and mode of living; which may so influence the economy of the human body, that bile of an acrid and somewhat unnatural quality may be secreted by the liver, which, when taken up into circulation from the first passages, may so disturb the heart, arterial system, and other parts, that the symptoms which usually accompany an attack of fever from contagion, will take place, and fever be established, that in its progress will become contagious.

Such opinion might appear probable, from this consideration, that indications of cure adopted on this assumption, have generally succeeded both in the treatment of fever immediately pending of contagion,

and also of that which could not be referred to any such cause; the most general of which indications are the removal of this bilious supply from the first passages by appropriate medicines, and also of that part of it out of circulation which has already been taken up by a plentiful supply of light subacid diluents, assisted by such medicines as experience and observation shall point out. To this offensive quality of the bile might probably be referred the varieties met with in typhus fever; as when attended with sore throat, pains, and inflammation of the joints, petechiæ, and scarlatina externally, and also when internally, with affections of brain, lungs, pleura, liver, peritoneum, stomach, and intestines. These varieties take place occasionally in either of the parts according as one part is more predisposed than another to suffer from this offending cause. The external topical affections will generally disappear in proportion as the original fever is removed by the usual means. When any of the internal parts above mentioned is engaged, we have found it absolutely necessary to resort immediately to the lancet, though the fever in other respects were of the most forbidding type, to await the effects of the usual treatment of the fever, would be attended with serious consequences. In such cases only of low fever, when some of the internal parts above mentioned are engaged in inflammation, do I think the lancet necessary; nay, in some instances, it might, in my humble opinion, be harmful.

In last August, the sick under my care in the hospital, during that month, were 104, of which number 4 died; of 100 dismissed cured, 2 only were bled. I am satisfied to think that more than nine tenths of the 98 cured without being bled,

might have lost a few ounces of blood, without injury; but surely I could not fairly refer their recovery to blood-letting.

GEO. HAGAN.

2d June, 1813.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

IN those days when party spirit swells so high and so fierce, when it displays its baneful influence in extinguishing every noble and generous sentiment in the human heart, rendering it a scene of wild disorder; when man forgets his near alliance and close connexion with his brother man, and discovers in him only an inveterate enemy, fired with malice or revenge, and thirsting for his blood; in those days, (blessed be God!) there still exist those, who may with propriety be called lovers of their country. In the breasts of those loyal and patriotic few, who are far elevated above the narrow spirit of party, there resides those divine and philanthropic virtues, the possession of which constitutes them the ornaments, the support, and protection of their country. The possession of these virtues constitute them patriots; and, as patriots, one object alone is their desire, the welfare and happiness of their country. This is the grand object of their wishes and pursuit. To its attainment all their exertions and efforts are devoted. Viewing the spirit of party as destructive of the peace, and inimical to the interests of civil society, by separating and dividing men, whom the God of nature hath united as brothers, they are, for this reason, its decided and devoted enemies. All their influence is employed, and every effort exerted, to suppress and annihilate this demoniacal spirit, and re-unite in the bonds of love and concord, those